

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

346 deterioration • deut-

: to become impaired in quality, functioning, or condition : DEGENERATE (allowed a tradition of academic excellence to ~) *(his health deteriorated)* — **de-te-ri-o-ra-tive** \-rāt-iv\ adj
de-te-ri-o-ra-tion \di-tir-ē-\rā-shən\ n (ca. 1658) : the action or process of deteriorating : the state of having deteriorated
syn DETERIORATION, DEGENERATION, DECADENCE. DECLINE mean the falling from a higher to a lower level in quality, character, or vitality. DETERIORATION implies impairment of vigor, resilience, or usefulness; DEGENERATION stresses physical, intellectual, or esp. moral regression; DECADENCE presupposes a reaching and passing the peak of development and implies a turn downward with a consequent loss in vitality or energy; DECLINE differs from DECADENCE in suggesting a more markedly downward direction and greater momentum as well as more obvious evidence of deterioration.
de-ter-minable \-tər-mə-nə-bəl\ adj (15c) 1 : capable of being determined, definitely ascertained, or decided upon 2 : liable to be terminated : TERMINABLE — **de-ter-min-a-bility** n — **de-ter-min-a-bly** \-blē\ adv
de-ter-mi-na-cy \di-tər-mə-nə-sē\ n, pl -cies (1873) 1 : the quality or state of being determinate 2 a : the state of being definitely and unequivocally characterized : EXACTNESS b : the state of being determined or necessitated
de-ter-mi-nant \di-tər-mə-(ə)nənt\ n (1686) 1 : an element that identifies or determines the nature of something or that fixes or conditions an outcome 2 : a square array of numbers bordered on either side by a straight line with a value that is the algebraic sum of all the products that can be formed by taking as factors one element in succession from each row and column and giving to each product a positive or negative sign depending upon whether the number of permutations necessary to place the indices representing each factor's position in its row or column in the order of the natural numbers is odd or even 3 : GENE: broadly : a comparable subordinate agent (as a plasmagene) 4 : one of the chemical groupings that together determine the specific reactivity of an antigen or antibody *syn see CAUSE — de-ter-mi-nan-tal* \-tər-mə-nənt-əl\ adj
de-ter-mi-nate \di-tər-mə-(ə)nāt\ adj [ME, fr. L *determinatus*, pp. of *determinare*] (14c) 1 : having defined limits 2 : definitely settled 3 : conclusively determined : DEFINITIVE 4 : CYMOSE 5 : relating to, being or undergoing egg cleavage in which each division irreversibly separates portions of the zygote with specific potencies for further development — **de-ter-mi-nate-ly** adv — **de-ter-mi-nateness** n
de-ter-mi-na-tion \di-tər-mə-nā-shən\ n (14c) 1 a : a judicial decision settling and ending a controversy b : the resolving of a question by argument or reasoning 2 archaic : TERMINATION 3 a : the act of deciding definitely and firmly; also : the result of such an act of decision b : the power or habit of deciding definitely and firmly 4 : a fixing or finding of the position, magnitude, value, or character of something: as a : the act, process, or result of an accurate measurement b : an identification of the taxonomic position of a plant or animal 5 a : the definition of a concept in logic by its essential constituents b : the addition of a differentia to a concept to limit its denotation 6 : direction or tendency to a certain end : IMPULSION 7 : the fixation of the destiny of undifferentiated embryonic tissue
de-ter-mi-na-tive \-tər-mə-nātiv, -tər-mə-(ə)nāt-iv\ adj (1655) : having power or tendency to determine : tending to fix, settle, or define something *(regard experiments as ~ of the principles from which deductions could be made —S. F. Mason)* *syn see CONCLUSIVE — determinative* n
de-ter-mi-na-tor \di-tər-mə-nātər\ n (1556) : DETERMINER
de-ter-mine \di-tər-mən\ vb **de-ter-mined**; **de-ter-min-ing** \-tər-mə-(ə)nīng\ [ME *determinen*, fr. MF *determiner*, fr. L *determinare*, fr. *de-* + *terminare* to limit, fr. *terminus* boundary, limit — more at TERM] vi (14c) 1 a : to fix conclusively or authoritatively b : to decide by judicial sentence c : to settle or decide by choice of alternatives or possibilities d : RESOLVE 2 a : to fix the form, position, or character of beforehand : ORDAIN (two points ~ a straight line) b : to bring about as a result : REGULATE (demand ~s the price) 3 a : to fix the boundaries of b : to limit in extent or scope c : to put or set an end to : TERMINATE (~ an estate) 4 a : to find out or come to a decision about by investigation, reasoning, or calculation (~ the answer to the problem) (~ a position at sea) b : to discover the taxonomic position or the generic and specific names of 5 : to bring about the determination of (~ the fate of a cell) ~ vi 1 : to come to a decision 2 : to come to an end or become void *syn see DECIDE, DISCOVER*
de-ter-min-ed \-tər-mənd\ adj (1513) 1 : having reached a decision : firmly resolved (~ to be a pilot) 2 a : showing determination (~ effort) b : characterized by determination (will deter all but the most ~ thief — *Security World*) — **de-ter-min-ed-ly** \-mənd-lē, -mənd-lēv\ adv — **de-ter-min-ed-ness** \-mənd(nəs)\ n
de-ter-min-er \-tər-mə-(ə)nər\ n (ca. 1530) : one that determines: as a : GENE, DETERMINANT 3 b : a word (as his in "his new car") belonging to a group of limiting noun modifiers characterized by occurrence before descriptive adjectives modifying the same noun
de-ter-min-ism \di-tər-mə-niz-əm\ n (1846) 1 a : a theory or doctrine that acts of the will, occurrences in nature, or social or psychological phenomena are causally determined by preceding events or natural laws (explained behavior by the combination of an environmental and a genetic ~) b : a belief in predestination 2 : the quality or state of being determined — **de-ter-min-ist** \-tər-mə-nis\ adj — **de-ter-min-is-tic** \-tər-mə-nis-tik\ adj — **de-ter-min-is-ti-cal-ly** \-tər-mə-ni-səlē\ adv
de-ter-rence \di-tər-əns\ n, -ter-; -ta-rəns\ n (1861) 1 : the act or process of deterring (the penalty for the crime of perjury is often no ~ to lying under oath — *New Republic*) 2 : the maintaining of vast military power and weaponry in order to discourage war
de-ter-rent \-ənt, -rənt\ adj [L *deterrent*, *deterrens*, pp. of *deterre* to deter] (1829) 1 : serving to deter 2 : relating to deterrence — **de-ter-rent** n — **de-ter-rent-ly** adv
de-ter-sive \di-tər-siv, -ziv\ adj [MF *detersif*, fr. L *detersus*, pp. of *detergere* to deterge] (1586) : DETERGENT — **de-ter-sive** n
de-test \di-test\ vi [MF *detester* or L *detestari*; MF *detester*, fr. L *detestari*, lit., to curse while calling a deity to witness, fr. *de-* + *testari* to call to witness — more at TESTAMENT] (1533) 1 : to feel intense and often violent antipathy toward : LOATHE 2 obs : CURSE DENOUNCE *syn see HATE — de-tester* n

de-test-a-ble \di-'tes-tə-bal\ adj (15c) : arousing or meriting intense dislike : ABOMINABLE — **de-test-a-bility** n — **de-test-a-bly** \-blē\ adv
de-test-a-tion \dē-tes-tā-shən, di-\ n (15c) 1 : extreme hatred or dislike : ABHORRENCE, LOATHING (had a ~ of hypocrites) 2 : an object of hatred or contempt
de-throne \di-thrōn\ vt (1609) : to remove from a throne or place power or prominence : DEPOSE — **de-throne-ment** \-mənt\ n — **throner** n
de-tick \('dē-tik\ vi (1925) : to remove ticks from (dogs should be ~ and sprayed) — **de-tick-er** n
det-i-nue \'det-nü, (y)ü\ n [ME *detenewe*, fr. MF *detenue*, fem. of *detenu*, pp. of *detenir* to detain] (15c) 1 : a common-law action for the recovery of a personal chattel wrongfully detained or of value 2 : detention of something due: esp : the unlawful detention of a personal chattel from another
det-o-na-ble \det-nə-bəl, -ō-nə-bəl\ adj (1884) : capable of being detonated — **det-o-na-bility** \det-nə-bil-ətē, -ō-nətē\ n
det-o-nate \det-nāt, 'det-nāt\ vb -nat-ed; -nat-ing [L *detonata*, p. of *detonare* to thunder down, fr. *de-* + *tonare* to thunder — more at THUNDER] vi (1729) : to explode with sudden violence ~ vi 1 : cause to detonate (~ a bomb) — compare DEFLAGRATE 2 : to set off in a burst of activity : SPARK *(programs that detonated controversy)* — **det-o-nat-a-ble** \-tāt-ə-bəl, -nāt-ə-bəl\ adj — **det-o-na-tive** \det-nə-tiv, -ō-nətiv\ adj
de-tox-i-cate \('dē-tök-sə-kāt\ vt -cat-ed; -cat-ing [de- + L *toxicus* poison — more at TOXIC] (1867) : DETOXIFY — **de-tox-i-ca-tion** \-shən\ n
de-tox-i-fy \('dē-tök-sə-fī\ vi -fied; -fy-ing (ca. 1905) 1 : to remove poison or toxin or the effect of such from 2 : to free (as a drug user, an alcoholic) from an intoxicating or an addictive substance in the body or from dependence on or addiction to such a substance — **toxi-fi-ca-tion** \('dē-tök-sə-fā-shən\ n
de-tract \di-trak\ vb [ME *detracten*, fr. L *detractus*, pp. of *detrahere* withdraw, disparage, fr. *de-* + *trahere* to draw — more at DRAW] (15c) 1 archaic : to speak ill of 2 archaic : to take away 3 : one (~ attention) ~ vi : to take away something (an individual's influence or ~s from his power to persuade —Carroll Tucker) — **de-trac-tor** \-'trak-tər\ n
de-trac-tion \di-trak-shən\ n (14c) 1 : a lessening of reputation or esteem esp. by envious, malicious, or petty criticism : BELITTLEMENT, PARAGEMENT 2 : a taking away (it is no ~ from its dignity or prestige — J. F. Golay) — **de-trac-tive** \-'trak-tiv\ adj — **de-trac-tively** adv
de-train \('dē-trān\ vi (1881) : to get off a railroad train ~ vi : to remove from a railroad train — **de-train-ment** \-mənt\ n
de-trib-al-i-zate \('dē-trī-bəl-īz\ vt -ized; -iz-ing (1920) : to cause to relinquish tribal identity : ACCULTURATE — **de-trib-al-i-zation** \('dē-trī-bəl-īzā-shən\ n
det-ri-men-tal \de-trə-'ment-əl\ adj (ca. 1656) : obviously detrimental *(the ~ effects of pollution) syn see PERNICIOUS — men-tal-ly* \-'lē\ adv
detri-men-tal n (1831) : an undesirable or harmful person or thing
detri-tion \di-trish-ən\ n (1674) : a wearing off or away
detri-tus \di-trit-əs\ n, pl **detri-tus** \-'trit-əs, -tri-tūs\ [F *détritus*, pp. of *deterre*] (1802) 1 : loose material (as rock fragments or organic particles) that results directly from disintegration; product of disintegration, destruction, or wearing away : DEBRIS 2 : tri-tal \-'rit-əl\ adj
de trop \da-'trō\ adj [F] (1752) : too much or too many : SUPERFLUOUS (*the ridiculously complex plot was de trop*)
de-tu-mes-cence \de-t(y)ū-mēs-ən(t)s\ n (1678) : subsidence or diminution of swelling or erection — **de-tu-mes-cent** \-'mēnt\ adj
Deu-ca-li-on \d(y)ū-'käl-yən\ n [L, fr. Gk *Deukaliōn*] : a survival of his wife Pyrrha of a great flood by which Zeus destroys the rest of the human race
deuce \d(y)ūs\ n [MF *deus* two, fr. L *duos*, acc. masc. of *duo* two — more at TWO] (15c) 1 a (1) : the face of a die that bears two dots (2) : a playing card bearing an index number two b : a throw of a die yielding two points 2 : a tie in tennis after each side has won 40 requiring two consecutive points by one side to win 3 sets [F *deux* bad luck] a : DEVIL DICKENS — used chiefly as a mild oath (~ is he up to now) b : something notable of its kind (a ~ of a woman or set) to deuce
deuce vt **deuced**; **deuc-ing** (1919) : to bring the score of (a tennis game or set) to deuce
deuce \d(y)ū-səd\ adj (1782) : DAMNED, CONFOUNDED (in a ~)
deuc-ed or **deuc-ed-ly** adv
deuces wild n (1913) : a card game (as poker) in which each dealer represents any card designated by its holder
deus ex ma-chi-na \dā-sə sek-'smäk-ə-nə, -nä; -'smak-ə-nə\ n [L, god from a machine, trans. of Gk *theos ek méchanēs*] (1697) : introduced by means of a crane in ancient Greek and Roman drama to decide the final outcome 2 : a person or thing (as in fiction or legend) that appears or is introduced suddenly and unexpectedly and provides a contrived solution to an apparently insoluble difficulty
deut- or deuto- comb form [ISV, fr. *deuter-*] : second (*deutonymph*)